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## **BMX Bluegrass Nationals brings 1,400 Competitors** **from 45 States to Freedom Hall**

**LOUISVILLE, KY (January 31, 2013)** – BMX rides into Freedom Hall with racers from age 2 to 70 competing in the Bluegrass Nationals Feb 8-10, 2013. Approximately 1,400 competitors are expected from 45 states. Bluegrass Nationals is free and open to the public. The event is expected to generate \$1.3 million of economic impact for Louisville.

On Friday the track will be open from 1-5 p.m. for practice with a pre-race at 6 p.m. Saturday practice time starts at 7 a.m. and qualifying races begin at 11:30 a.m. Race action begins on Sunday at 8 a.m.

Racers will compete in qualifying rounds called motos to earn a spot in the main event. They have two chances to qualify for either semi-finals or final races. The races take place on a 1000 ft dirt tract that features hills, banked turns, obstacles and jumps.

The Bluegrass Nationals is part of the national racing circuit, which features 30 races across the country. The racers compete for national points throughout the whole year to earn a spot in the final competition in November.

BMX started in backyards with kids trying to imitate their motocross heroes on modified bicycles. The sport grew from backyards to organized competitions, eventually becoming an Olympic sport at the 2008 games. BMX is an extreme action sport that's fun for the whole family.

For more information about BMX visit [www.usabmx.com](http://www.usabmx.com).

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One of the top 10 largest public facilities of its kind in the United States, the Kentucky Exposition Center features 1.2 million square feet of indoor space including Freedom Hall, an indoor arena which seats over 19,000 people. The facility's class "A" exhibit space totals 425,700 square feet and accommodates an amazing spectrum of events year round. The expo center is the permanent home for the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show, and the North American International Livestock Exposition. Conveniently located adjacent to the Louisville International Airport and near the junction of three major interstates, the Kentucky Exposition Center is easily accessible and just five minutes south of downtown Louisville. For more information, go online to [www.kyexpo.org](http://www.kyexpo.org).